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Applicants: L.W. Graham et al.

Attorney Docket No.: SEMT116060

Application No.: 09/429,446

Group Art Unit: 1741

Filed: October 28, 1999

Examiner: W.T. Leader

Title: METHOD, CHEMISTRY, AND APPARATUS FOR NOBLE METAL  
ELECTROPLATING ON A MICROELECTRONIC WORKPIECE

SUBMISSION IN CONJUNCTION WITH REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION

Seattle, Washington 98101

March 31, 2003

# 29  
pso  
04/08/03

TO THE COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS:

In accordance with the requirement for a submission in conjunction with the filing of a request for continued examination under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114, applicants submit the enclosed response including declarations signed by the inventors of the subject application.

The enclosed declaration submitted in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.131 establishes completion of the invention described and claimed in the subject application prior to July 22, 1998, which is a date prior to the effective date of U.S. Patent Nos. 6,132,587 to Jorne et al.; 6,074,544 to Reid et al.; 6,140,241 to Shue et al.; 6,077,412 to Ting et al.; 6,107,186 to Erb; and 6,203,684 to Taylor et al.

In view of the submitted declaration antedating the above references, the rejections of pending Claims 15-34 are overcome and allowance of the application is proper.

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LAW OFFICES OF  
CHRISTENSEN O'CONNOR JOHNSON KINDNESS<sup>PLLC</sup>  
1420 Fifth Avenue  
Suite 2800  
Seattle, Washington 98101  
206.682.8100

If the reviewing party has any questions regarding the above, he is invited to call applicants' attorney at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

CHRISTENSEN O'CONNOR  
JOHNSON KINDNESS<sup>PLLC</sup>



Jeffrey M. Sakoi  
Registration No. 32,059  
Direct Dial No. 206.695.1713

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service in a sealed envelope as first class mail with postage thereon fully prepaid and addressed to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 2327, Arlington, VA 22202, on the below date.

Date: March 31, 2003  
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Monica Cmyat

LAW OFFICES OF  
CHRISTENSEN O'CONNOR JOHNSON KINDNESS<sup>PLLC</sup>  
1420 Fifth Avenue  
Suite 2800  
Seattle, Washington 98101  
206.682.8100